

EXHIBITION GUIDE



EVEWRIGHT

**TILBURY BRIDGE
WALKWAY
OF MEMORIES**

OPENS FROM 22 JUNE 2021 WINDRUSH DAY

Exhibition Guide

Tilbury Bridge Walkway of Memories Art Installation June 2021

Tilbury Bridge Walkway of Memories is an art and sound installation conceived and created by Artist EVEWRIGHT. The first site-specific outdoor art and sound installation to be held at the Port of Tilbury in Essex and the UK dedicated to people of the Windrush Generation

The installation is an immersive visual art experience, installed on 432 panes of glass collaged with photographs, documents, original boat passenger tickets and memorabilia. The artwork is installed in an original passenger walkway 55 metres long. As you walk through, you can listen to audio stories about the lives of some of the elders whose images are featured in the installation.

Tilbury Port is an iconic location which has an historic significance to the black community in Britain. This artwork is a unique statement memorialising the lives of those people who came from the Caribbean who carried their British passports proudly as British citizens with hope and expectation. They passed through this location as one of the original walkways where SS Empire Windrush passengers, in 1948 arrived. Although many arrived before 1948, those that arrived here were the first large post war wave of British colonial citizens to disembark from the passenger ship at Tilbury Cruise Terminal.

The Contributors to Tilbury Bridge Walkway of Memories

This installation features over 130 people from the Windrush era and their families through photographs, documents and audio, telling stories in their own words of their arrival, the lives and families they created and their contribution to British society. This artwork and soundscape are symbolic and a testimony to those that arrived on SS Empire Windrush and the many that followed that journey to the UK. The names of all 130 participants are here <https://www.evewrightarts.org/tilbury-walkway> and also on the credits at the Bridge.

Tilbury Bridge Walkway of Memories Installation images

These includes:

- the children left behind with grandparents as parents leave to seek a new life
- passports & passport photographs capturing the moment of arrival to England
- wedding photographs
- marriage Certificates,
- employment documents, nursing certificates
- original passenger ship tickets from Don Sydney & Hamilton Williams
- images of participants in their employment during different stages of their lives from nurses & nursing auxiliary workers, military personnel during World War 2, post office workers, policemen, teachers and labourers.
- Images of fashion and culture with clothing and hairstyles in the 60's and 70's
- Letter from home (the Caribbean) in the 1980's
- Pathe film still images of people arriving from the Empire Windrush in 1948

Written Summaries of the Audio windows

Summaries of all 21 audio Windows are below. A more detailed summary of 12 of the 25 stories can be found on our website www.caribbeantakeawaytakeover.wordpress.com just click on the images of each elder. There is also a link under each of the 12 photographs to the 30-minute extracts.

Audio Recordings

21 sound windows with approximately 10-minute extracts on each window of 25 stories. Using your own devices visitors can scan the QR codes on selected windows and download different stories to listen on site using headphones or at home at their own pace to share with friends and family.

Sharing Your Story

Visitors will be encouraged to commemorate their own parent's arrival by adding their own stories online at <https://caribbeantakeawaytakeover.wordpress.com/2018/05/22/beautiful-stories/> Or why not take a selfie at the installation to record your visit and share it with us on our Instagram @evewrightarts, @evewrightstudio

Resources

As a legacy of the project the public can now access the 30-minute edited audio recordings at Essex Records Office (ERO) in Chelmsford or online on ERO's website. The links are below <http://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk/>

ERO SoundCloud channel:

<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk/ViewCatalogue.aspx?ID=1136172>

ERO blog entry with extracts of some of the elder stories are published at:

<http://www.essexrecordofficeblog.co.uk/caribbean-takeaway-takeover-interviews-online/>

Watch the online video tour with Artist EVEWRIGHT of Tilbury Bridge Walkway of Memories <https://www.evewrightarts.org/tilbury-bridge-video-installation>.

Artist website: <https://www.evewright.com>.

Transcription of All Stories

Thurrock Museum in Essex are currently transcribing all the audio recordings and copies will be lodged at the Museum and Essex Records Office from October 2021 for visitors to use as a resource.

Monograph Tilbury Walkway of Memories Publication

EAF will be publishing a monograph to record and preserve the stories created at TBWM. Schools in Essex will receive copies as a resource once completed. Contact hello@evewright-studio.com to register your interest.

Tilbury Bridge Walkway of Memories is an outdoor art and sound installation conceived and created by Artist EVEWRIGHT. It is the first site-specific art and sound installation to be held at the Port of Tilbury in Essex and the UK. It is an immersive visual art experience, installed on 432 panes of glass representing the lives of Windrush pioneers and their descendants.

Using your own device download a QR reader and scan the QR codes featured on selected windows. Listen to extracts of stories from Windrush elders' about their experience of coming to the UK.



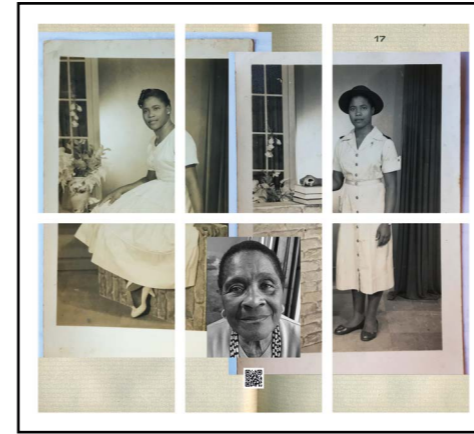
Allan Wilmot

WW2 ex-military, returning to England in 1947 and difficulties finding work.



Audio length 9.21

<https://soundcloud.com/essex-record-office/allan-wilmot-3-mar-2018-short>



Lenore Sykes

Midwife from Trinidad, why Colchester? Attitude to mixed relationship and mixed race children.



Audio length 11.39

<https://soundcloud.com/essex-record-office/lenore-sykes-6-nov-2017-short>



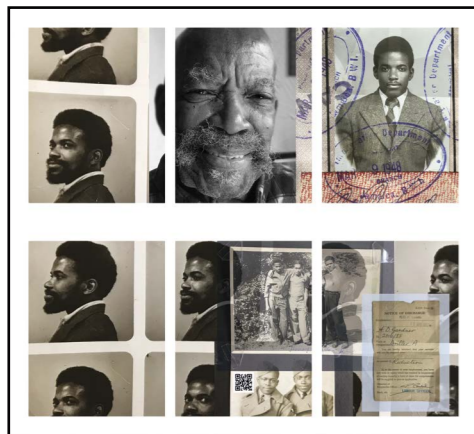
Carlton Darrell MBE

Segregation in Bermuda, desire to come to the "Motherland." First impressions of England, experience of eating fish and chips, being accepted in the Church, Talks about the weather and wanting to return home. He reflects on his life.



Audio length 9.58

<https://soundcloud.com/essex-record-office/carlton-darrell-8-jan-2018-short>



Alford Gardner

WW2 ex-military, Journey on Empire Windrush & Stowaways in 1948.



Audio length 10.00

<https://soundcloud.com/essex-record-office/alford-gardener-10-feb-2018-short>



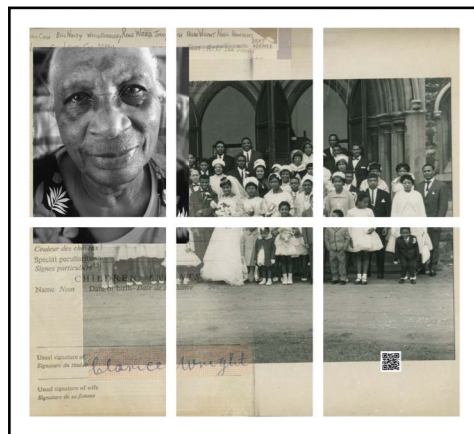
Nelzine Green

Arrived from Jamaica responding to Britain's recruitment drive for nurses from Jamaica, first impressions of England, Reason to become a nurse.



Audio length 11.33

<https://soundcloud.com/essex-record-office/nell-green-6-nov-2017-short>



Clarice Agatha Reid

Arrival from Jamaica, resilience, homelessness, nursing, story of survival.



Audio length 11:15

<https://soundcloud.com/essex-record-office/clarice-reid-15-apr-2019-short>



Amy Levy

Winston Levy arrived on Empire Windrush. Amy, his wife is interviewed by daughter Andrea Levy (Small Island Author), talks of housing conditions in the 1950's renting a room in a house and prejudices of her landlady. Empire Windrush Ship Reporter welcomes the new arrivals.



Audio length 3:27

<https://soundcloud.com/user-571333497/sets/window-63/s-00AQWNRJIqE>



Freda Seaton

Hardship of family left behind, importance of letters and sending barrels home, enduring racism in nursing career and her resilience. Impressions of the younger generation **Parents advisory Strong language used in this recording.*

Audio length 10:04



Edmund & Byrel Melville

Daughter Josephine memories of parents sending barrels home to Jamaica.

Audio length 3:20.

<https://soundcloud.com/user-571333497/sets/window-62/s-ahmeVIZX7Qr>



White Defence League

Trouble in Notting Hill News Reporter speaks to member of the White Defence League on immigration in 1950's British Pathe.



Audio length 1:28

<https://soundcloud.com/user-571333497/sets/window-18/s-6GKp7UC6Q4W>



Lydia Sterling

Interviewed by grandchildren about coming to England from Jamaica, gratitude of family. **Audio length 5:40.**

Ivaline White Arriving in England from Jamaica, finding accommodation in London and working in JJ Lyons as a cashier and the General Post Office as a telephone operator. **Audio length 4:31**



Alvin Ffrench Arrived from Jamaica as an engineer, married and worked at Cambridge University, experienced, racism, found solution to leave Britain for better life in Canada : **Audio length 5:04**

<https://soundcloud.com/user-571333497/sets/window-11/s-2Zgm04y6Ry9>



Our Jamaican Problem

Trouble in Notting Hill News Reporter speaks to member of the White Defence League on immigration in 1950's British Pathe.



Audio length 5:14

<https://soundcloud.com/user-571333497/sets/window-20/s-vYec3tBsxnh>



Gloria Whyte

Arrival from Trinidad, housing renting/buying home, partying & fashion. Explains why Jamaicans rented houses.



Audio length 10:32

<https://soundcloud.com/essex-record-office/gloria-whyte-29-jan-2018-short>



Don Sydney

Nursing in Essex, Su-Su, an informal saving scheme, racism.



Audio length 10:41

<https://soundcloud.com/essex-record-office/don-sydney-5-dec-2017-short>



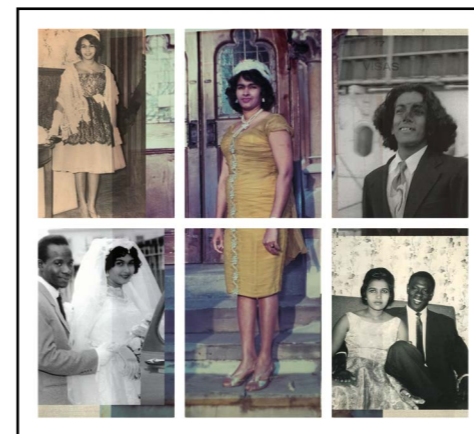
Carol Sydney

Experience of snow and smog, England meeting expectations & talks of her identity.



Audio length 10:50

<https://soundcloud.com/essex-record-office/carol-sydney-11-jan-2018-short>



Pearline Mckenzie

Marcus McKenzie reflects on his mother Pearlline Mckenzie an Asian Jamaican who arrived in the UK. Despite taboos she married Rupert George Mckenzie a black Jamaican African man. Attitudes towards mixed marriages of Indian Caribbean and Black Caribbean from Jamaica, building a future in England.



Audio length 11:15

<https://soundcloud.com/user-571333497/sets/window-52/s-kprIHPjfgla>



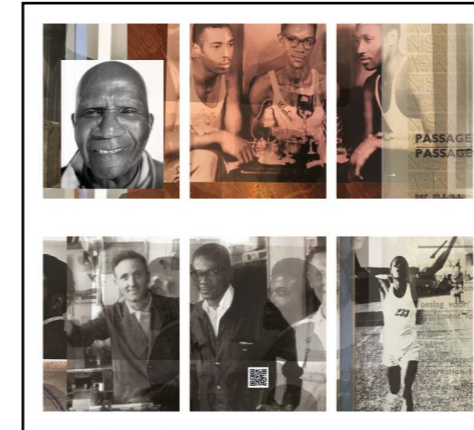
Tina Aparicio

Leaving Trinidad, experience being Lady Erskine nurse in 1960's, Community response to her as an ex-midwife in Essex.



Audio length 9.21

<https://soundcloud.com/essex-record-office/tina-aporicio-29-jan-2018-short>



Alton Watkins

Came from Trinidad as a trained Printer, explains why the street was paved with Gold, Meeting expectations.



Audio length 11.27

<https://soundcloud.com/essex-record-office/alton-watkins-12-feb-2018-short>



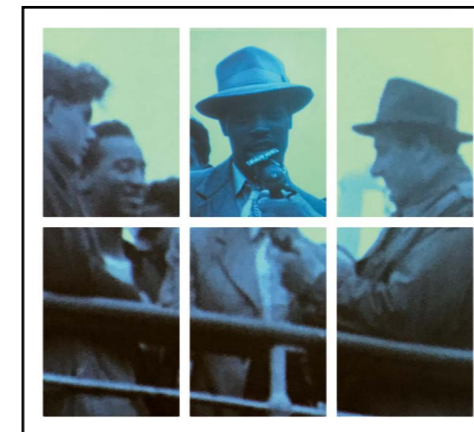
Hamilton Williams

Working at the General Post Office, Racism encountered, Returning home to St Vincent.



Audio length 9.33

<https://soundcloud.com/essex-record-office/hamilton-williams-13-feb-2018-short>



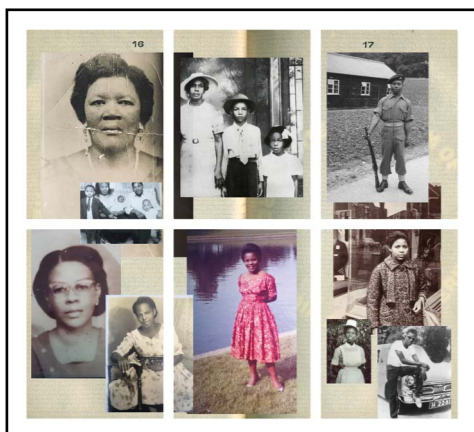
Lord Kitchener

Pathe Reporter Meets Arrivals on the Empire Windrush 1948. Citizens of the "Mother country" arrives at Tilbury on the Empire Windrush. Reporter interviews new arrivals and the King of Calyso Lord Kitchener sings "London is the Place for me".



Audio length 2:03

<https://soundcloud.com/user-571333497/sets/window-45/s-CbneoQri3Vg>



Alift Harewood

Arrival from Guyana. Now Mayor of Maccelsfield, speaks of racism & discrimination for black nurses to advance in a career in nursing. Talks of experience in Harold Wood Essex and other hospitals from the 1960's. **Audio length 9:24.**



Byrel Melville Experience of racism on the buses and public transport & hopes for her children. **Audio length 1.56.**

Norma Griffiths First impressions, working as nurse at Claybury Hospital Essex till retirement, racism and thoughts on returning home to Jamaica. **Audio length 1.29**

<https://soundcloud.com/user-571333497/sets/window-25/s-SqZupUgD21T>



Evena Morris

Leaving six children behind in Grenada, finding work in Rag Trade in London. Using "Susu" an informal saving scheme, to send for children as a single mum. Proud of children as her legacy.



Audio length 9:45

<https://soundcloud.com/user-571333497/sets/window-36/s-FEp4RJMMc5Y>



For an immersive Art experience using your own device download a QR reader and scan the QR codes featured on selected windows. Listen to extracts of stories from Windrush elders' about their experience of coming to the UK.

Scan here for opening times www.evewrightarts.org and to watch the video tour at <https://www.evewrightarts.org/tilbury-bridge-video-installation>

EVEWRIGHT ARTS FOUNDATION
www.evewrightarts.com | www.evewright.com
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